

The Knoxville Independent

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Your Flag and My Flag

By WILBUR D. NESBIT

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart beat quicker at the sight,
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed, red and blue and white.
The one flag—the great flag—the flag for me and you—
Gleams all its life beside—the red and white and blue.

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And how it flies today
In your land and my land and half a world away!
Roses-red and blood-red the stripes forever gleam!
Saves-white and soul-white—the good forever share
dreams:

Ship-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam bright—
The gloried garden of the day; a shelter through the night.

Your Flag and my Flag! To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat and flares shrilly pipe:
Your Flag and my Flag—a blessing in the sky:
Your hope and my hope—never hid a lie!
Home land and far land and half the world around,
Old Glory bears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!



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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

IN WORLD OF LABOR

Arrangements were completed for the taking over by the government of the Cincinnati plant of the Ford Motor company.

The number of union men in Canada in 1917 was 204,630, as compared with 133,132 in 1911. The number of unions in 1917 was 1,974, of which number 1,702 had international affiliations.

Three hundred employees of the steel car shops of the Chicago and Alton railway at Bloomington, Ill., struck on account of dissatisfaction over pay. The walkout was without the sanction of the shop federation.

Nineteen breweries, employing about 10,000 men, are expected to discontinue business in St. Louis December 1, when the food administration's order prohibiting manufacture of beer and other malt liquors goes into effect.

The Montana state council of defense has made public an order permitting county attorneys of Montana to obtain the release of prisoners convicted of misdemeanors on condition that they engage in some essential occupation.

Six years ago hoisting engineers in Erie, Pa., were paid 25 cents an hour with no limit to the work day. Their union is now recognized, a 75-cent minimum and a nine-hour day established with pay for overtime and holiday work.

Mexican labor, which may now as a war emergency measure enter the United States, through the action of the secretary of labor, will have an important task in the harvest of the rice crop in the Southern states—a crop that is said to be the largest ever known.

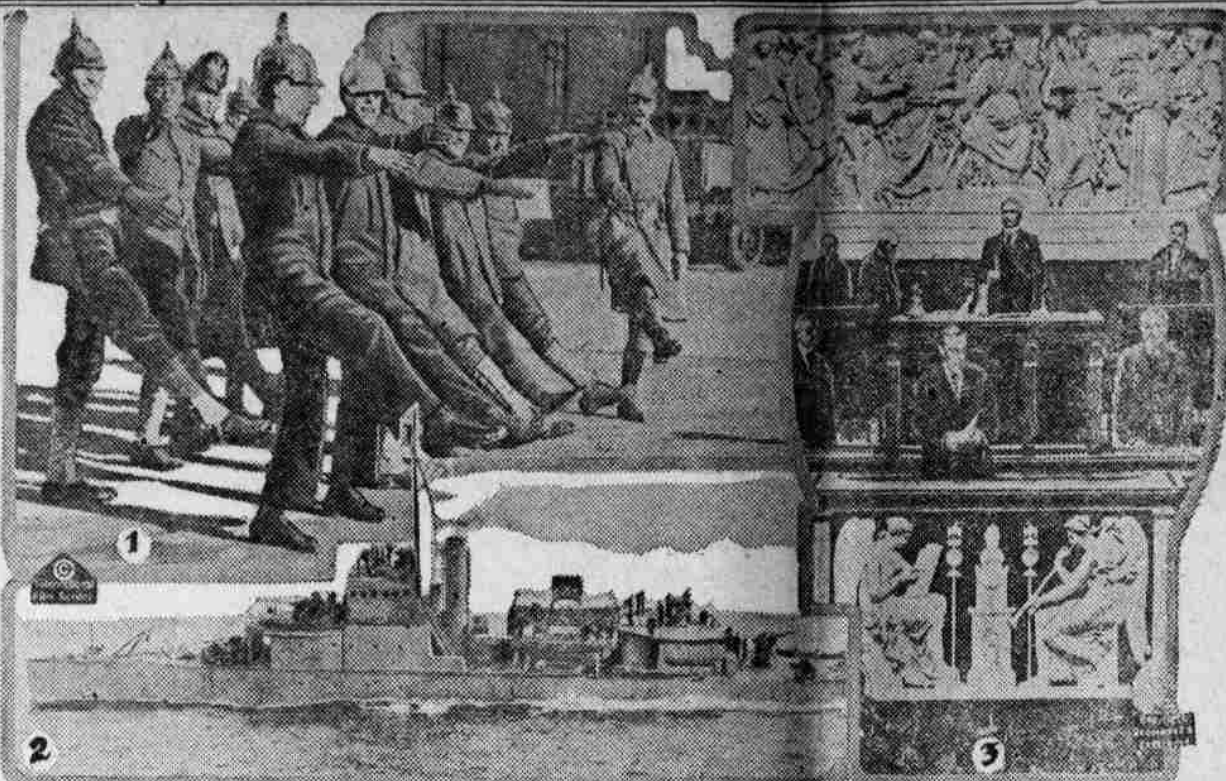
Striking miners in the Butte district are urged to return to work, and way-laying of miners and other violations of federal laws are ordered stopped on penalty of immediate prosecution. United States District Attorney B. K. Wheeler said in a statement.

There are 50,000 positions available in Pennsylvania for wounded soldiers, L. R. Palmer of the state department of labor and industry told a convention of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences. Mr. Palmer said the state could furnish paying work for all Pennsylvanians returning wounded from France.

More than 1,200 steel workers in the American steel foundries in the east side towns of St. Louis were thrown out of work following the refusal of 150 cranesmen and electricians to return to work until the company granted them an eight-hour day and an increase in pay. They demanded a ten per cent increase. The men are now receiving as high as \$6 a day.

Sweet Thought.

Cane sugar, we are told, beats beet sugar, but beet sugar beats no sugar at all.—Boston Transcript.



1—Men at the Bush terminal, Brooklyn, having fun with some of the 80,000 German helmets that have been brought over to be used in the coming Victory loan campaign; one will be given each purchaser of a \$10,000 bond. 2—First Eagle boat made by Ford under contract for the government, on a practice trip off the Atlantic coast. 3—President Wilson delivering his famous address on the league of nations before the French senate and chamber of deputies, the chiefs of the peace congress and other notables.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President Wilson Argues for a League of Nations and the Senate Debates It.

OPponents STANDING FIRM

Peace Delegates Approaching Agreement on Question of Reparation—Germany Torn by Civil Strife and Royalists Plan Coup d'Etat—Labor Troubles Here and Abroad.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

That unless the United States joins the league of nations chaos will result; that the Monroe doctrine is safe because the constitution of the league expands it to cover the world and the signatory nations will be obligated to uphold it; that it is practically impossible to amend the draft of the league plan that was adopted; that the limitations of the size of the army and navy imposed by the league would be only moral obligations and that the restraint really would lie in the limitation of the production of arms and munitions, and that the United States could withdraw from the league at any time it saw fit—such in substance was the explanation of the great plan given by President Wilson to the members of the senate and house committees on foreign affairs.

Mr. Wilson dined the committeemen and was frank, jovial and enthusiastic, and answered all their questions freely, but after it was all over the wise ones declared that he had not converted a single one of the opponents of the league. These include both Republicans and Democrats, and during the rest of the week they continued their attacks on the plan. The spokesmen of the administration replied vigorously, but there was reason to believe that nearly every member of the senate, which must pass on the plan, had his mind made up.

In his Boston speech the president told the people very little about the league, but in brilliant phrases he appealed to the country to support the plan, declaring that the rest of the world relied on America at this juncture. In this he is corroborated by the British press, which shows some anxiety over the opposition manifest in this country, and some fear that America will not be willing to assume her share of the burden of governing the world. It is recognized, abroad and at home, that the American people might look askance at any proposition that they accept mandates for such territories as the former German colonies in Africa, and the president says that in Paris he firmly discouraged any such idea; but he thinks the United States might well become the mandatory for the Armenians. As for the newly organized nations of Europe, he says it is up to America to stand by them, whether or not the league of nations is formed.

In France the opposition to the league, based ostensibly on the lack of a binding provision for the use of force to put its mandates into effect, has largely died out because the critics feared that opposition there and in America would kill the entire project. The emissaries of the allied nations are now said to be in complete harmony in this matter.

As the week closed there were signs that the principles of the league might be given a tryout in settling the dispute between the Italians and the Jugo-Slavs, which had reached a critical stage. The military commission of the latter had expelled the Italian military mission from Ljubljana, and in retaliation Italy closed the frontier, stopping all food trains carrying relief for the Jugo-Slavs and the Czechoslovaks.

On Friday the draft of the new and permanent armistice was submitted to the supreme council in Paris, but may not be placed before the German gov-

ernment for some time yet. The allied nations agreed to it but the United States reserved the right to object to provisions for the demolition of the defenses of the Kiel canal and Helgoland and their neutralization and to the transfer of the German cables to the allies. The reasons for objecting were not made public.

The commission that is working on the question of representation has been making swift progress. It is reported that the amount Germany will be called on to pay has been reduced about 80 per cent from the original total of the demands, but this fact will not afford the Huns much consolation. The cut was made because it was recognized that the greater the indemnity the greater must be the opportunity given Germany to do business in order to get the money to pay the debt. The British urge that the entire cost of the war should be assessed against the Germans; the French agree with this, but want settlement first for damages in violation of international law and payment of the rest if and when possible; the Americans have held that reparation should be demanded only for wanton destruction. The compromise plan that will be adopted probably will be such that Germany's industrial recovery shall not be too swift, at the expense of France and Belgium. The matter of the Franco-German frontier was still unsettled last week, but it seemed likely that the French might be permitted to occupy the left bank of the Rhine until the indemnity is paid, without annexing the Rhenish provinces. No German field or fixed fortifications will be permitted in that territory. The Rhenish provinces may be formed into a separate buffer state.

The supreme council decided last week to establish an intermediate zone in Transylvania between the Roumanian and Hungarian troops, and also heard the claims of Armenia.

One question over which the allied nations are still at wide variance is that of the disposition of the surrendered German war vessels. The British are determined that they shall not be in the future a part of the naval armament of the world and seem to prefer that they be sunk or broken up. The French are equally firm in their demand that the vessels be divided among the allies in proportion to their naval losses, and in this they have the support of Italy and some of the smaller nations. France declares the other nations can do as they please with the ships that fall to their share, but those France gets will become part of her navy, that is necessary to police the seas and protect her colonies. She cites the formidable naval building program of the American government as evidence that the most pacific nations have and intend to maintain navies.

While her conquerors are settling her boundaries and future relations with the rest of the world, Germany is enjoying a full measure of the anarchy and civil strife that she wished on Russia. The disturbance in Bavaria which resulted in the murder of Premier Eisner and others by reactionaries was quelled by vigorous measures adopted by the government, and the latter fell more than ever into the hands of the radicals. In Saxony a new revolt was started by the Spartacists, who were joined by the miners and industrial workers of the Halle region, and the government sent a large force of troops to stop the strikes and riots. Radical as are the Spartacists, they are too mild to suit the real anarchists, and the latter are reported to have begun a counter-revolution that is centered in Dusseldorf, which city was in their hands.

That the Ebert government is alarmed by the spread of the Spartacan movement is evidenced by its distracted efforts to meet and suppress it. Military Governor Noske thinks he can put it down by force of arms and urges that the national assembly authorize the raising of 200,000 additional militia. But President Ebert himself, it is said, favors the extraordinary course of seeking to conciliate the radicals by establishing a national soviet as the lower legislative branch of the government. Noske also wanted

to send troops into Bavaria, but the soviet government in Munich threatened to execute ten prominent citizens if this were done.

Those who have never placed any faith in the genuineness of the German revolution of last autumn were not surprised to read that the monarchists of that country were preparing for a coup d'etat in the near future for the restoration of the old order of things. The general staff with the old officer class are asserted to have gradually gained the whip hand and now hold the government in their power and intend to overthrow it. A number of royalist officers met recently in Charlottenburg, according to the story, and pledged themselves to hold munitions in readiness, to enlist as many men loyal to the former kaiser as possible and to assemble when called. The coup, it is believed, will be carried out in Berlin, and it is certain that bloody civil war will result, whatever may be the final outcome. The former army officers are a power to be reckoned with in Prussia, and it may be their efforts will be aided by the numerous members of the old regime who still retain their places in the various departments of the government at Berlin, under majority socialist chiefs. William Hohenzollern not long ago had a conference with Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the German foreign minister, and was said afterward to be extraordinarily cheerful. Possibly he hopes to recover his throne, but if so he doesn't seem to be taking into account the fact that the allies claim the right to determine his fate and that they undoubtedly have other plans for him.

The many strikes and other signs of industrial unrest in America are causing President Wilson some anxiety, and after a session with Secretary of Labor Wilson he had an invitation telegraphed to the governors of all the states and the mayors of about 100 cities to meet with him in conference at the White House March 3 and 4 to discuss "vital questions affecting business and labor." The president and the American labor delegation now in Paris as well as urging the adoption of a definite national policy that will stimulate public and private construction and industry.

In line with this plan, Secretary Redfield has created an industrial board for the purpose of stabilizing basic commodity prices, and the council of national defense will co-operate with it. "The effort," says an announcement of the council, "should be to wholly eliminate the abnormal, unbalanced stimulation that business has had and the inflated prices that have resulted, and to start upon a normal level, after which industry can safely rely upon the law of supply and demand. Reductions from high prices to the proper level should be made as nearly as practicable at the same time in the various industries."

Premier Lloyd George and his colleagues in the British government have been working like Trojans to avert or at least postpone the threatened strike of all the miners and railway men of Great Britain. Appeals to the patriotism and common sense of the men appeared to have some effect, though at this writing the outcome is extremely uncertain. The miners, railway men and transport workers have formed a triple alliance, no one section of which will take any action or reach any settlement without consultation and agreement with the other sections.

President Wilson made several important appointments last week. A. Mitchell Palmer, alien property custodian, was made attorney general; Hugh C. Wallace of Tacoma was appointed ambassador to France, and Norman Hapgood was given the place of minister to Denmark.

On his way from Boston to Washington the president signed the new revenue bill and many of its sections went into effect at once. One of its provisions made the District of Columbia bone-dry, with the exception of the property occupied by foreign embassies and ministries.



by Wilbur D Nesbit
Author of
"Your Flag and My Flag"

A health to the fighting man! The man with a red glint in his eye—
A glint that glows to a tender gleam for the old flag in the sky.
To the man who dares—and the man who cares for the good old U. S. A.

Who bears the brunt in the battle front and hurries to the fray.
A health to him—our soldier grim—with his faith that makes his might;
Who tunes his life to the thrilling life and knows the way to fight!

A health to the fighting man! The man all innocent of sham,
Who pays the due of a loyal heart at the shrine of Uncle Sam;
Who bears our load on the weary road that leads to a distant peace,
And asks no halt till he finds the fault, and the roars of cannon cease;
May the throb and thrum of the rolling drum be promise to his ears
Of the joyous day when he'll come away to hear a nation's cheers.

A health to the fighting man! The man with impulse clean and clear
To hold him right as a gallant knight without reproach or fear;
When the bugle sings and the bullet rings and the saber flashes bright,
May he feel the aid of the prayers prayed to guard him in the fight;
May good luck ride on either side and save him for the grasp
Of the friendly hand in his native land that's yearning for the clasp.



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"MADE IN AMERICA"

Push For Prosperity!

Every man who is out of work in America would have employment if the people of the United States confined their purchases for the next few months to goods made here.

When you buy ask where the articles are made. Reject foreign goods.

Commodities made by American labor ought to be good enough for American citizens.

Pershing Thanks Y. M. C. A.
For Its Canteen Service

NOW THAT FIGHTING IS OVER, GENERAL RELIEVES RED TRIANGLE, AT ITS OWN REQUEST, OF POST EXCHANGE WORK

Chaumont, France, Feb. 23.—The American Y. M. C. A., at its own request, has been relieved of its work in maintaining the post exchanges with the American army. Correspondence has been exchanged between General Pershing and E. C. Carter, in charge of the Y. M. C. A. with the army, resulting in this decision. On Jan. 29 Mr. Carter wrote to General Pershing saying that duties of the Y. M. C. A. in promoting athletics and entertainments were so heavy that he thought it should be relieved of the exchange work.

General Pershing, in his reply, said:

"As you correctly state, the Y. M. C. A. undertook the management of the post exchanges at my request at a time when it was of the greatest importance that no available soldier should be taken away from the vital military functions of training and fighting. As the reasons which impelled me at that time to request you to undertake this work no longer exist, I am glad to approve of your suggestion."

"In making this change, permit me to thank you for the very valuable services and assistance which the Y. M. C. A. has rendered to the American Expeditionary Force in handling these exchanges. Handicapped by a shortage of tonnage and land transportation, the Y. M. C. A. has by extra exertion served the army better than could have been expected, and you may be assured that its aid has been a large factor in the final great accomplishment of the American army."